Saving metallurgical coke

1517. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal dust injection system has been introduced in blast furnaces to save metallurgical coke;

(b) what saving was realized in 2006-07;

(c) whether there was gap between planned and actual expenditure; and

(d) if so, what actions are being taken to ensure success in future plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Coal Dust Injection (CDI) system has been introduced in some of the Blast Furnaces in Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Tata Steel Ltd. and some other units in the private sector.

(b) Rate of Coal Dust Injection in Blast Furnaces and savings thereof depend on several factors *viz.* quality and size of coal injected, quality of iron bearing material, burden distribution, health of the blast furnace, hot blast temperature, pressure and its volume, oxygen enrichment of blast etc. However, on an average, 1 tonne of coal dust replaces approximately 0.9-1 tonne of metallurgical coke. SAIL has reported savings of 108,384 tonnes of metallurgical coke by CDI in 2006-07.

(c) and (d) There were gaps between planned and actual expenditure in SAIL plants in 2006-07 SAIL has taken action to technologically upgrade some of these blast furnaces, whenever they are due for capital repairs, to improve coal dust injection.

VSP expansion

1518. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vizag Steel Plant is in expansion mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering the issue of iron ore availability to cater to the needs of VSP after expansion; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that VSP sought permission from the Government for the acquisition of new iron ore mines; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The expansion plan of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), VSP which is currently under implementation, will enhance the capacity of